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Date: May 4, 2010

Patent 0-05-109 - 15408/US/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Bar-Yaakov et al.
Serial no.: 10/541,668
371(c) date: December 27, 2005
I.A. Filed: January 12, 2004
Title: FLAME RETARDANT FOR ENGINEERING
THERMOPLASTIC APPLICATIONS
Examiner: Megan MCCULLEY
Art Unit: 1796
Confirmation: 4122

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

Response and Amendment

This response is being submitted in reply to the office action mailed on February 4, 2010.

Amendments

1. Please amend the claims as shown on the attached pages. Claims 1, 10, and 20-22 have been amended to better reflect the domain of the invention usage. Claim 22 has been further amended to specify that the claimed method does not include any step wherein residual organic solvents are removed [supported for instance on page 3 lines 1-3, Example 1 (example disclosing the process of the invention), Example 3 (comparative example).]

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

2. Claims 22, 1-3 and 6-9 are rejected as being unpatentable over Nakai et al. (US 5,250,590) in view of Nantaku et al. (JP 2001-310990). The Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's objection.

The invention covers applications in engineering thermoplastics where corrosion resistance and avoidance of solid deposit on metallic connectors are important issues.

Engineering thermoplastics have a higher processing temperature than many other polymers. They are used in critical applications, such as connectors, where non-corrosion is very important. They are in intimate contact with metallic electric conductors. These connectors are continuously used at high temperature during their life cycle. Volatiles can cause deposits that will interfere with the efficiency of the contact between the metallic parts. Many other polymers are used in simpler applications, such as covers, where corrosion is not as important.